(b) The Department of Company Affairs has informed that there are six companies registered with the Registrar of Companies, Mumbai with the prefix 'Glenmark' and no scrutiny of the balance sheet of any of these companies has been taken up till date.

(c) Does not arise.

Investigation against Ranbaxy by U.K. Fraud Office

1444. SHRI MUNAVVAR HASAN: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the U.K. Fraud Office has conducted investigation for overcharging against Ranbaxy;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the U.K. Government has sought assistance of Indian Government in this regard; and

(c) if so, what are the details thereof and what action Government propose to take in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI GINGEE N. RAMACHANDRAN): (a) and (b) The Enforcement Directorate have reported that they are not aware of any investigation being conducted by U.K. Fraud Office against Ranbaxy.

(c) Does not arise.

Visit of World Bank team to Gujarat

1445. SHRI RAJU PARMAR: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a top level World Bank (WB) team visited the State of Gujarat in October, 2002 to assess the progress of quake related projects funded by them;

(b) if so, what are the results of evaluation conducted by World Bank during their visit to Gujarat; and

(c) whether World Bank and Asian Development Bank (ADB) have found discrepencies in the financial assistance provided by them to the State Government and if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL): (a) A World Bank Team visited Gujarat during September 11-21, 2002 to review the World Bank financed components of Gujarat Emergency Earthquake Reconstruction Programme.

(b) The team observed that the programme financed by the World Bank was processing satisfactorily as per the agreed plan.

(c) No material discrepancy in use of the World Bank and Asian Development Bank funds has been found.

Functioning of M/s. Mekaster Trading Corporation

1446. SHRIMATI GURCHARAN KAUR: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether M/s. Mekaster Trading Corporation (projects division) 908, Ansal Bhawan, 16, K.G. Marg, New Delhi has been receiving deposits/ loans from public;

(b) whether it has proper legal permission for the purpose; if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether it has not been refunding money to public on maturity of deposit/loans; if so, the details thereof since 1998;

(d) whether it is violating statutory/regulatory rules/norms prescribed therefor; and

(e) if so, details thereof and action taken/proposed against it as per law to protect general public and the money being refunded by the company?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL): (a) to (e) Information is being collected and will be placed on the Table of the House.

Promotion of officers of Customs and Central Excise Service

1447. SHRIMATI GURCHARAN KAUR: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a number of officers belonging to Customs and Central Excise Service have recently been given *in- situ* promotion to Joint Secretary level, if so, the details thereof;